

INTIMATION
A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

On and after the 1st April, 1894, the Prices of our Wines and Spirits will be as follows:—

PORT.

(For Invalids and General Use.)

- B Vintage, superior quality, Red, Capable, \$14.40
- C Fine Old Vintage, superior quality, Black Seal Capable, 16.20
- D Very Fine Old Vintage, extra superior, Violet Capable, 20.40

Port after removal should be rested for a month before use. When required for drinking at once should be kept in the bottle at the Dispensary before being sent out. These wines are well known to our customers.

SHERRY.

- B Superior Port Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal Capable, 210.80
- C Massena, Pale, Natural Sherry, White Capable, 12.00
- D Superior Old Port, Pale Natural Sherry, Red Seal Capable, 11.00

- E Extra Superior Old Port Dry, choice old wine, White Seal Capable, 14.40
- F Extra Superior Old Port Dry, choice old wine, White Seal Capable (Old Bottle), 20.40

B, C, and D are excellent dinner wines for invalids and delicate stomachs. D and E are after dinner wines of a very superior vintage. All are of the highest quality and will be supplied at proportionate wholesale rates.

CLARET.

- B St. Estephe, Red Capable, 8.98 7.50
- C St. Julien, Red Capable, 9.00 7.50
- D La Basse, Red Capable, 7.20 7.20

- E Cassa, Red Capable, 9.90 10.44
- F Chateau d'Anglade, 13.20 14.40
- G Chateau de la Roche, 18.50 19.20

Our Claret, including the lowest prices, are guaranteed to be the genuine product of the vine of the grape, and are not adulterated with spirits and chemicals, as is generally the case with cheap wines.

Sample bottles and smaller quantities will be supplied at proportionate wholesale rates. We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine when bought direct from us in the Colony or from our authorized Agents at the Coast Ports.

HOOK.

- Northern, 2.00
- Redhead, 2.00
- Hookhead, 2.00

BURGUNDY.

- Chablis, white wine, 15.00
- Meurault, superior white, 18.00

MADEIRA AND CHAMPAGNE.

Full particulars of the various Brands on application.

BRANDY.

- A Hennessy's Old, Pale, Red Capable, \$14.40
- B Superior Very Old Cognac, Red Capable, 16.20
- C Very Old Cognac, Red Capable, 20.40

- D Hennessy's Finest Very Old Cognac, Red Capable, 24.00
- E Finest Very Old Cognac, Red Capable, 28.00

WHISKY.

- A John Jameson's Old, Green Capable, \$12.00
- B Green Capable, Fine Old, 15.00

- C John Jameson's Very Fine Old, Green Capable, 18.00
- D All these are very fine and old. C has been stocked in Hong Kong for 20 years, there being little sale for Irish Whisky in the Colony.

AMERICAN.

- A John Jameson's Old, Green Capable, \$12.00
- B Green Capable, Fine Old, 15.00

- C John Jameson's Very Fine Old, Green Capable, 18.00
- D All these are very fine and old. C has been stocked in Hong Kong for 20 years, there being little sale for Irish Whisky in the Colony.

GIN.

- A Fine Old Tarragon, White Capable, 37.20
- B Fine Unseasoned, White Capable, 7.20

RUM.

- A Fine Old Tarragon, White Capable, 37.20
- B Fine Unseasoned, White Capable, 7.20

LIQUEURS.

- A Fine Old Tarragon, White Capable, 37.20
- B Fine Unseasoned, White Capable, 7.20

CHAMPAGNE.

- A Fine Old Tarragon, White Capable, 37.20
- B Fine Unseasoned, White Capable, 7.20

COGNAC.

- A Fine Old Tarragon, White Capable, 37.20
- B Fine Unseasoned, White Capable, 7.20

SCOTCH.

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BRANDY.

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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.
Only communications relating to the Press should be addressed to the Editor. Correspondents are requested to forward their communications to the Editor, not for publication, but for the Editor's consideration. All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only. No anonymous communications should be received. Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited. Only supplied for Cash.

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The Daily Press

HONGKONG, MAY 5TH, 1894.

The petition to the House of Commons with reference to the constitution of the Legislative Council has been published and may now be criticised in detail. As remarked in a previous article, written when we only had before us the general purport of the petition, there is no reason why it should not be signed by all who hold the view that greater effect should be given to local views in the control of the affairs of the Colony, even though they think the precise form of local prayer for is not the best. The petition will at all events open up the whole question and prepare the way for reform of some kind. At least we hope it will, though the usual fate of petitions to the House of Commons is never to be heard of again. Presumably it is on the best legal advice that the petition is being addressed to that body instead of to Her Majesty or the Secretary of State for the Colonies, but the reasons for the choice have been made too clear to need to be stated. The House of Commons has never hitherto concerned itself with the constitution of Hongkong, the only Act of Parliament passed having special reference to the Colony, so far as our memory serves us, being the Chinese Emigration Act. The original charter of the Colony was granted by Her Majesty in Council, and this was revoked by Letters Patent, Her Majesty being "minded to make further provision for the Government of our said Colony." Any further change that may be made in the constitution of the Colony must be effected by the same means, and it may be done without the intervention of Parliament. Petitions to the House of Commons are referred to the Committee on Public Petitions, under whose direction they are classified, analysed, and, when necessary, printed at length. The reports of this Committee are printed three times a week, and point out, under classified heads, not only the name of each petition, but the number of signatures, the general object of every petition, and the total number of petitions and signatures in reference to each subject. The Hongkong petition will as a matter of course be referred to in this report, and may perhaps be deemed worthy of being printed at length, but there the matter will end unless some member moves a resolution on the subject. With the pressure of business in the House it is doubtful whether an opportunity for the discussion of such a resolution could be obtained, or whether, if the subject got placed on the orders of the day, it would be possible to keep a sufficient number of members in the House to prevent a count-out. We must trust to the efforts of the Colonial Party to secure full and adequate discussion of the question, but we fear the attitude of the wrong member of the House will be one of indifference, that he will look upon the matter as one that may be left to the Colonial Office. But the Secretary of State, unless he has the matter brought directly to his notice, will do nothing. If a mistake has been made, however, in addressing the House of Commons it means nothing more serious than the loss of a little time and trouble, for if nothing comes of the present petition, another couched in similar terms can be addressed to Her Majesty, and the Colonial Office will then be compelled to take it into consideration. There is another point in connection with the appeal to the House of Commons which may perhaps be mentioned, and that is the danger that if the House really takes the consideration of the question into its hands, it will be disposed to give us more than we want. Sir Charles Dilke, prominent member of the Colonial Party, in "Problems of Greater Britain," deprecates what he calls "Plaster Parliament" for the West Indies and adumbrates the claims of the negro democracy. It is just possible that the advanced Radicals will be disposed to give Chinese democracy a trial in this Colony. We do not think the date is a very real one, but we know it is weighed with some who have considered the question.

It is recognized in the petition that in Colony so peculiarly situated as the borders of a great Oriental Empire, and with a population largely composed of aliens whose traditions and family interests and racial sympathies largely remain in that neighborhood, Empire, special legislation and guardianship are required. Having regard to the Imperial position of a Colony which is at once a frontier fortress and a naval depot, the head-quarters of Her Majesty's fleet, and the base for naval and military operations in these Far Eastern waters, it is not expected that unrestricted power should be given to any local legislature, or that the Queen's Government could ever give up the paramount control of this important dependency. All the petitioners claim is the common right of Englishmen to manage their local affairs and control the expenditure of the colony where Imperial considerations are not involved. This we consider, could best be secured by the establishment of a Municipal Council, but an alteration in the constitution of the Legislative Council will go some distance in the same direction and is worthy of cordial support. If there is a general agreement that greater local control in the management of the affairs of the Colony is desirable minor differences as to the precise form in which that control is to be exercised may well be allowed to sink. What the petition specifically asks for is the free election of representatives of British nationality in the Legislative Council of the colony, a majority in the Council of such elected representatives, perfect freedom of debate

the official members, with power to elect according to their own discretion, without being called to account or endangered in their positions by any change of opinion. The Council or local body, therefore, the management of local affairs, and a consultative voice in questions of an Imperial character. The request is reasonable and ought to be granted without hesitation. The power of the Queen in Council to make laws for the Island and the fact that all local laws are subject to disallowance by Her Majesty on the recommendation of Her Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies afford sufficient protection against corruption or abuse. The only fault we have to find with the reform asked for is that it gives the category no executive control over the officials, such as would be exercised by a Municipal Council.

The P. & O. steamer, *Madras* left Bombay for this port on the 3rd inst.

The end of the *Shropshire* L. I. will play at the Ladies' Recreation Club on Monday, at 4.30 p.m.

H. H. R. H. Brooks arrived at Singapore by the last French mail, and was to leave for Starbuck on the 28th inst.

The dividend of 10 per cent. on the share of the Jelaba Mining and Trading Co., Limited, is now payable at the Chartered Bank.

Inspector Quincey on Friday night added a gambling den at No. 81 D'Aguiar Street and effected the arrest of seven men. They were charged with the offence of receiving stolen goods. W. C. W. Hastings yesterday and fined \$5 each.

The body of a European, about 30 years of age, respectfully dressed, which was found floating in the harbour on Thursday, has not yet been identified. The deceased was wearing a white shirt and a dark coat.

A return match at tennis between Hongkong and Canton will be played at Canton today. The match will be played at the Canton Tennis Club.

The Hongkong and Canton Tennis Club will play at the Canton Tennis Club on Monday, at 4.30 p.m.

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THE INTERPORT RIFLE MATCH.
The following are the names of the competitors in the Interport Rifle Match, which will be held at the Interport Rifle Range, on Monday, at 4.30 p.m.

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